



Attorney Docket No. 2069/US
Express Mail Label No. EV 410 059 620 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Confirmation No.: 6731

Inventors: Robert J. Kirch Group Art Unit: 3643

Appln. No.: 10/634,461 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: 04 August 2003

For: BIRD CAGE LADDER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3) and § 1.98

Sir:

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

The Examiner is requested to consider the references noted on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 during examination of the above-identified patent application. These references are submitted for the Examiner's consideration and are submitted pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In submitting these references, no representation is made or implied that the references are or are not material to the examination of the application. The Examiner is encouraged to make his or her own determination of materiality. Pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patent references are not provided herewith. Copies of the non-patent literature are enclosed.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fees are due with respect to this filing. However, if any fees are deemed necessary, such fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 04-1415.

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If the examiner has any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: 4 December 2003.

Respectfully submitted,


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Enclosures



FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 2069/US	APPLN. NO. 10/634,461
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT: Robert J. Kirch	
				FILING DATE 04 August 2003	GROUP 3643

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		D391,691	03/1998	Edlebeck et al.	D30	119	
		4,089,390	05/1978	McLain	182	206	
		4,199,041	04/1980	Gutner	182	206	
		4,257,492	03/1981	Rasada, Jr. et al.	182	206	
		4,434,871	03/1984	Niedworok	182	198	
		4,572,330	02/1986	Langevin	182	206	
		4,880,200	11/1989	Champagne et al.	248	547	
		4,938,312	07/1990	Trail	182	206	
		5,186,588	02/1993	Sutton et al.	410	210	
		5,228,411	07/1993	O'Rourke	119	26	
		5,332,063	07/1994	Amacker	182	116	
		6,044,930	04/2000	Hayman	182	206	
		6,158,549	12/2000	Hartman, Jr.	182	45	

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLISHED DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		“Snaps, Spring Snaps, Snap Hooks”, UMX – Universal Mercantile Exchange, Inc., located at http://www.umei.com/spring-snaps-1-10.htm , 3 pages, printed on February 20, 2002.
		“Bolt Snaps, O-Rings, D-Rings, Tri-Rings, Snap Hooks”, UMX – Universal Mercantile Exchange, Inc., located at http://www.umei.com/hooks/bolt-snaps-1-20.htm , 3 pages, printed on February 20, 2002.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.